

DATE: January, 2004

TO: Authorized Representative/Food Service Director

FROM: Dean Flaws, Food Distribution Consultant

SUBJECT: 4E (February) Release

PLEASE ROUTE TO FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR

1. **4E (February) Commodity Order Form** has been enclosed in this mailing. You may mail, fax, or use the Internet when ordering for 4E. Deadline for this office to receive the 4E (February) orders is: **January 20, 2004.**
2. The current ground beef recall "Mad Cow Disease" doesn't effect Iowa. This raw beef was slaughtered on December 9, 2003 at Vern's Moses Lake Meats in Moses Lake, Washington. Distribution includes the states of Oregon, Washington, Nevada, California, Alaska, Montana, Hawaii and Idaho. The quantity recalled is approximately 10,410 pounds. Iowa's December shipment of ground beef came from Skylark Meats in Omaha, Nebraska.
3. Enclosed in this mailing you will find a survey with some Q and A's regarding "Irradiated" ground beef. Please return the survey sheet with your school districts decision to order or not to order "irradiated" ground beef in the future.
4. Details on the January 26th ICN workshop over "Commodity Ordering over the Internet" and "Reimbursement Claim submission over the web" are enclosed in this mailing. Please register for this ICN workshop if you don't currently use the "Internet". Deadline January 21st.
5. The remaining commodity delivery schedule of 2003-2004 is as follows:
 - 4D – estimated start of delivery cycle (5 weeks) is January 5, 2004
 - 4E -- estimated start of delivery cycle (5 weeks) is February 16, 2004
 - 4F- estimated start of delivery cycle (5 weeks) is March 29, 2004

6. **Items Deleted for 4D (January) Deliveries:**

#0323	Chicken, canned	All warehouses
#0328	Chicken, Fajita	All warehouses
#2593	Smoothie, Cherry	All warehouses
#2595	Smoothie, Strawberry	All warehouses
#2606	X-Coolers, Cherry	All warehouses
#2610	X-Coolers, Strawberry	All warehouses

Products could not be produced in-time or USDA was not able to purchase the commodity product.

7. When ordering your commodities over the Internet be sure to click **UPDATE** after you have entered your numbers. You can click "**UPDATE**" as many times as you want. Once your numbers have been locked in, the last thing you click is the certify button.
8. Bureau of Food and Nutrition website has information on the commodity food program. If you need additional information, commodity values, or forms for the commodity food distribution program, please visit our web page at: www.state.ia.us/educate/ecese/fn/commdist
9. The next Iowa Commodity Advisory Council meeting is on February 27, 2004. Minutes from the last meeting on October 17, 2003 are enclosed in this mailing and also available on the BFN website. If you have any questions or concerns please contact a council member. Their email addresses can be found on the BFN website, under commodities.
10. Hope everyone has enjoyed the holidays and we at the department wish you all a great year in 2004.

Sincerely,

Dean Flaws, Commodities Consultant (515-281-4032)
Mary Jo Clark, Commodities Assistant (515-281-4751)
Bureau of Food and Nutrition

Enclosures